



County Administrative Office
Governmental & Legislative Affairs

Josh Candelaria
Director

May 4, 2018

The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 2161 – As Introduced February 12, 2018 – **SUPPORT**

Dear Chairwoman Gonzalez Fletcher:

The County of San Bernardino is pleased to support AB 2161, legislation that will create a statewide homeless integrated data warehouse, and respectfully requests the bill be removed from the suspense file.

As indicated by the Auditor's report on *Homelessness in California*, the state leads the nation with the highest number of people experiencing homelessness (134,000) and the highest proportion of unsheltered homeless persons (68 percent) of any state. In contrast, New York City shelters all but 5 percent and Boston three percent of their homeless populations.

By gathering data from local continuums of care and integrating it with data from the numerous state agencies that interact with homeless individuals, the state would have a valuable tool to assist with structuring programs and services that assist the homeless to improve outcomes and decrease administrative and program costs. A state data warehouse on homelessness would improve collaboration among state agencies, help assess the costs of homelessness to the state, provide greater transparency in state agency and grantees' operations, determine what interventions work to prevent or end homelessness, identify gaps in services, discover how patterns of service use relate to patterns of homelessness, analyze trends in homelessness, assess use of mainstream systems among people experiencing homelessness, and enhance planning and policy efforts to reduce homelessness.

For the above reasons, the County of San Bernardino is pleased to support AB 2161. If you have any questions regarding the County's position, please do not hesitate to contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental Affairs at (909) 387-4821 or jcandelaria@sbcounty.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert A. Lovingood".

Robert A. Lovingood
First District Supervisor
Chairman, San Bernardino County Board of Supervisor

cc: Members and Consultants, Assembly Appropriations Committee
San Bernardino County Legislative Delegation

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